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SOVIETS REPORT NEW REMEDY FOR BRUCELLOSIS

After collecting some green leaves during a violent thunderstorm accompa-
nied by strong lightning, the scientist L. I. Aleksandrov (Novosibirsk) sub-
jected thin cuts of these leaves to microscopic examination. He detected the
presence of microcrystals which did not resemble the salt crystals occasionally
encountered in plants. The newly discovered crystals gradually disappeared
upon exposure to light, but remained unchanged and could be preserved well
when the leaves were kept in darkness. Aleksandrov found that chemically the
substance composing the crystals belongs to the class of proteins. The crystals
exhibit a weak phosphorescence in the dark. Aleksandrov established that
identical protein crystals were formed when green leaves were exposed to elec-
trical discharges in the laboratory.

Further investigation carried out under participation of physicians and
veterinarians showed that a solution of the crystals kills bacteria, has a
beneficial effect on burns, and expedites the healing of wounds. Of particular
interest is the fact that the new remedy (named preparation "A" after the
first letter of Aleksandrov's name) is very effective against brucellosis.

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